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Subject: RE: Cal Downtown Association Digest - Request for News
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Date: 11/18/2014 05:02 PM
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LA BID Consortium: Below is the new CDA Downtown Digest. Thanks to all of you who contributed to this! Please keep the info coming to me. Should you be interested in CDA membership please go to our website <a href="https://www.californiadowntown.com">www.californiadowntown.com</a> to membership benefits, click on application. Or click on the newsletter Join below.

Best Lauren



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November 18, 2014

### In This Issue

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### **Board of Directors**

President
Michael Ault
Executive Director

### Message from the Editor



It is easy to succumb to what seems as all bad news surrounding us. In particular many districts, two of which are spotlighted below, are facing lawsuits and/or disgruntlement by stakeholders. I characterize this situation as "no good deed goes unpunished". BIDs were conceived and implemented to do good work where it

and implemented to do good work where it would otherwise not be done. It is an effective way to leverage the resources of

one into the power of many for the greater good. Unfortunately BIDs are also visible targets for those who prefer deterioration to paying a little for marked improvement. Go figure! At the same time knowing about these issues can better inform us on prevention or remedies. And then there are the success stories, also documented below. And that is the benefit of CDA - we bring you the issues and the successes in today's BID world. We trust you will find useful information and inspiration from this month's District Digest. As

Downtown Sacramento Partnership

Vice President Blage Zelalich Deputy Director San Jose Downtown Association

Secretary Lauren Schlau President Lauren Schlau Consulting

Treasurer
Kent Smith
Executive Director
LA Fashion District BID

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**John Lambeth** President Civitas

Tiffany Bromfield CEO San Diego Business Improvement District Council

Past Chair Kraig Kojian President & CEO Downtown Long Beach Associates

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CA Assn for Local Economic
Development

always, if you have something of interest for publication to California BIDs, please send them to me, laurens@lsconsult.com.

Warm regards, Lauren Schlau President Lauren Schlau Consulting

### Message from the President



## FINDING YOUR DOWNTOWN'S TIPPING POINT

As author Malcolm Gladwell noted in The Tipping Point, big things start small and grow slowly. Then one variable changes, and successes multiply exponentially. That's Downtown Sacramento's story. Sacramento is a mid-sized market and like many downtowns across the country, it was impacted by the economic downturn several

years ago. Access to capital for major development projects in our urban core dwindled and redevelopment dollars were no longer an option. It was time to get creative and assess our priorities.

As a PBID, our responsibility is to be the voice for our downtown districts and our property owners. So, we reaffirmed our vision for downtown, focused on a handful of development priorities and policy issues, and advocated for them with local government and business leaders. While these weren't big flashy projects, they were critical to laying the foundation for a strong urban core. The culmination of this focus has resulted in over \$1.1 billion dollars in public and private investments in our urban core over the past decade.

We're now seeing a shift in our market and our city is thinking bigger. This summer Sacramento broke ground on a new arena in the heart of downtown. The downtown entertainment and sports complex (ESC) project will serve as an iconic architectural centerpiece that identifies our city. But this development is more than what events it hosts, or even the million plus new visitors the ESC will bring into downtown. It is even more than the 1.5 million square feet of new development the arena and its ancillary contribute. It is a starting point that will accelerate downtown's revitalization.

For investors, this catalytic project demonstrates our city's unshakeable commitment to constructing not just an arena, but also a prosperous downtown. This resolve has inspired investor confidence and generated a surge of momentum. New owners excited about downtown's future prospects are starting to purchase buildings near the arena, and current owners are talking about development plans for their properties. This all is transpiring as the 240-acre Railyards infill project the largest of its kind in the nation continues to moves forward. And, equally ambitious projects like a streetcar line and investments in the Community Center Theater and the Powerhouse Science Museum are on the drawing board.

Make no mistake. A downtown arena is not a magic bullet. It is just an example of a catalyst. Every city is different. When you look at your own downtown, what opportunities do you have in front of you? What are the small steps that will build you a strong foundation? What can

Central City East Association

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City of Burbank

City of Clovis

City of Dana Point City of Folsom

City of Glendora

City of Grass Valley

City of La Mesa

City of La Verne

City of Lancaster

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the City Clerk

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Association

Downtown Ventura Partners

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Ford Mance Investment

**Builders** 

be done to take your district the next level? It doesn't have to be arena. But, I urge you to consider what could be done help your downtown accelerate past its tipping point.

Regards,

Michael T. Ault

**Executive Director** 

Downtown Sacramento Partnership

### Legislative Update: DID and Venice Stakeholders

Don Steier, Guzen & Steier

### **Downtown Industrial District Lawsuit**

Recently, Legal Aid of Los Angeles sued Central City East Association, Los Angeles Downtown Industrial Business Improvement District, and LAPD in Federal Court for violations of civil rights of the homeless. The lawsuit alleges that for the past decade the BID personnel remove "personal property" found on public sidewalks and stored it at the BID warehouse for ninety days pursuant to state law. The lawsuit attempts to extend the injunction issued against the LAPD prohibiting it from seizing property that is not abandoned, an immediate threat to health or safety, or evidence of a crime. The BID officers are alleged to be agents of the police. Inasmuch as the BID is formed and funded by property owners, CCEA asserts that the BID personnel are agents of those property owners and not the police. The lawsuit raises the legal question whether property owners are prohibited from securing unattended property found on the public sidewalks usually outside their businesses.

The lawsuit will address an issue raised by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal when it suggested that the interests of the homeless in their property should be balanced against the City's obligations to maintain safe and healthy public areas.

The judge who issued the original injunction against LAPD has assigned himself to the case. LAPD is sued for permitting the aggrieved conduct. The lawsuit seeks injunctive and money damages.

### Venice Stakeholders Lawsuit

In an unusual lawsuit, commercial and residential property owners on the Venice boardwalk have sued both the City and County of Los Angeles in state court for injunctive relief. The property owners allege that the governmental entities have created a nuisance by failing to maintain government property in a safe and healthy manner. According to the complaint, the accumulation of homeless, property, drugs, garbage and hazardous waste by failing to enforce regulations have interfered with the property owners' use and quiet enjoyment of their own properties. The owners also allege that their property values and rental abilities have decreased.

#### In the News

South Park BID & LA Sustainability Collaborative partnering to create road map for Green Alley

Fortuna Business Improvement District (FBID) Gateway to LA Airport **Business District** Gilroy Economic Development Grass Valley Downtown Association **Gridley Business Improvement** District **HB Downtown Business** Improvement District Hollister Downtown Association Hollywood Property Owners Alliance Ironsmith, Inc. Johnathan Schuppert KLI Finance, Inc. Koreatown Northgate CBD LA Downtown Industrial District Lakeport Main Street Assn. Lauren Schlau Consulting Little Italy Association Livermore Downtown, Inc. Main Street Hanford Main Street Martinez Main Street Oceanside, Inc. Main Street Tehachapi MJM Management Group Modesto Downtown Improvement District **NBS** New Moon Visions Brand Development and Marketing North Shattuck Association North Tahoe Business Association Oxnard Community **Development Commission** Paso Robles Main Street Association Petaluma Downtown Association Pleasanton Downtown Association Progressive Urban Management Associates, Inc. R Street Sacramento Partnership **RBF** Consulting Regional Parking Inc. Riverside Downtown Partnership San Jose Downtown Association San Luis Obispo Downtown Association San Pedro Historic Waterfront BID Santa Ana Downtown Inc. SFW, LLC Sierra Display Inc. South Park BID Stockton Blvd Partnership/Oak Park Business Association Telegraph Property & Business Mgmt. Corp. Texas Downtown Association The Placemaking Group

The Playhouse District

### Initiative in DTLA

Nassau News Live

In an effort to redefine and activate public space, the South Park Business Improvement District (BID) and the Los Angeles Sustainability Collaborative (LASC) partnered to create a robust "green alley initiative" for the South Park area in Downtown Los Angeles.

**READ MORE >>** 

# Stanislaus, Merced leaders hope ACE rail comes south

Merced Sun-Star

A few dozen leaders from Stanislaus and Mereced counties waited at a Manteca station Thursday for a train to take them west. Modesto could get service as early as 2018 and Merced by 2022, with Turlock somewhere in between.

**READ MORE >>** 

### County wins \$1.5 million grant for homeless facility

A city-county partnership in the effort to combat local homelessness received a boost recently when San Benito County was awarded a \$1.5 million Community Development Block Grant targeted to help construct a homeless facility.

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# Mayor signs law regulating Airbnb - and that could mean a ballot fight

**SFGate** 

With two quick strokes of a pen on Monday, Mayor Ed Lee legalized the use of Airbnb and other short-term home rentals in San Francisco, a landmark and perhaps short-lived move in a city weighted by a housing crunch.

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# As Downtown LA grows, so does urgency to fix Skid Row

NPR

In Los Angeles, more than a thousand people sleep on the street in cardboard boxes and tents - just a mile away from City Hall.

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### Mark your Calendar: Upcoming Events

### **CALED's 35th Annual Training Conference**

April 20-22, 2015

Economic Developers are Seizing Opportunities in California by helping businesses get established, grow, and find success. This state is stronger and prepared for the future. The 35th Annual CALED Conference is focused on celebrating successes, learning from them, identifying opportunities, and seizing those opportunities in order to continue moving the California economy forward.

Association The River District Third Avenue Village Association Toni Bodenhamer & Company ~ Event Success Town of Danville Tracy City Center Association Truckee Downtown Merchants Association Tulare Downtown Association Tuolumne County Economic **Development Authority** Ukiah Main Street Program Urban Place Consulting Group, Inc. Vista Village Business Association Wahlstrom & Associates Walnut Creek Downtown **Business Association** Yuba City Downtown Business Assoc/BID

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### CALED's 2014 Economic Development Educational Series

TIDs. BIDs. & PBIDs - Using Districts for Economic Development December 18, 2014 Learn the advantages of TIDs, BIDS, and PBIDs. Presented in partnership with the California Downtown Association & Downtown Long Beach Associates

All webinars/conference calls are free to CALED Members. Registration fee for Non-CALED members is \$55.

Please contact Kristy Nong at (916) 448-8252, ext. 13 for more information.

### Spotlight On: Downtown Sacramento Partnership



Sports Basement's entry into Downtown Sacramento is a huge win for Downtown and a direct result of downtown the work done by the Downtown Sacramento Partnership business

The Sports Basement, a Bay Area retailer, closed escrow on 730 I Street on September 9. The 70,000 square foot building, which is currently vacant, will be home to company's first store in Sacramento. When it opens next fall, the Sports Basement will rank behind Macy's as the second largest retailer in the downtown district. The company is projected to create 70 construction jobs, 80 permanent jobs, and an estimated \$800.000 in annual sales tax revenue for the City.

The sale of this underutilized property is a major win for Downtown and a direct result of DSP's retail recruitment efforts over the past four years. In 2010, Turton Commercial engaged DSP to provide market research and a retail analysis to entice the company



to locate Downtown. The Sports Basement originally placed a bid on the building at 730 I Street in 2011. But due to an aggressive expansion schedule, they needed to rescind their Sacramento offer with the intent to revisit the market. Recognizing the potential economic impact of this deal, DSP continued to pursue the retailer and worked behind the scenes to connect The Sports Basement with the City and County to consider a new offer.

Since 2011 73 new businesses have been recruited or assisted in opening their business downtown.

"This has been a long time coming and a sign of the positive momentum we are seeing downtown," said DSP Executive Director Michael Ault. "We have been aggressively selling the value of investing in the urban core and companies like The Sports Basement are recognizing the opportunities in our market. We commend the leadership demonstrated by the City and County of Sacramento in making this deal happen."

### **Receiving Accolades: Central City East Association**

On November 6, 2014, the Weingart Center honored the Central City East Association (CCEA) with the Community Leadership Award for its diligence and devotion to improving the Central City East community. CCEA is an association of ardent voices for improvement in CCE. The Weingart Center selected CCEA to receive the award for many reasons, including:



- Its members have dedicated 30 plus years of time, energy, commitment and care to the improvement of the community.
- They have created awareness, programs and initiatives that enhanced the community, such as:
  - The Industrial District Business Improvement District, which was formed in 1998.
  - O In 2002 the members formed the Voluntary Storage Facility for homeless individuals. The facility started with 300 storage bins, and have since grown to over 1,100. For over a decade, this facility served as a safe haven where persons stored their belongings at no cost to the individual. The facility has been a model for other cities nationwide.
  - And, the monthly Skid Row Walks, which exposed homelessness in CCE, and allowed a wide audience from throughout Southern California to see for themselves the tragedy that is Skid Row.

### Making Moves: Career & Leadership Opportunities

### **Redwood City Improvement Association**

RFP - Executive Director, District Manager or District Management Company for the Downtown Redwood City Community Benefit Improvement District.

**DOWNLOAD** >>

Have a career or leadership opportunity to list? Send it to kmoran@ida-downtown.org.

### **CDA District Digest Leadership**

Executive Editor: Lauren Schlau Lauren Schalu Consulting Assistant Editor: Kevin Moran International Downtown Assoc.

Northern California Contributor: Central California Contributor: Southern California Contributor: This could be you!

AMI Concepts

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Do you have your ear to the ground when it comes to the latest downtown news in your region? We're looking for

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volunteers to contribute content, specifically from the Southern and Northern California regions. If you're interested, please contact Kevin Moran at <a href="mailto:kmoran@ida-downtown.org">kmoran@ida-downtown.org</a> for more details.

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